Musom language

Musom is an Austronesian language spoken in the single village of Musom (6.683574°S 147.11452°E) in Labuta Rural LLG, Morobe Province, Papua New Guinea.[3] The other name for Musom is Misatik, given by the older generations because this was the name of the village that the ancestors settled on.[4] Musom is currently an endangered language due to the fact that native Musom speakers are continuing to marry other language speakers.[4] Musom is also endangered because of its change in grammar and vocabulary due to its bi- and multilingualism.[4] In the Musom village, other languages that Musom speakers may speak are Aribwuang and Duwet.[4] In the Gwabadik village, because of intermarriages other languages that Musom speakers may speak are Nabak and Mesem.[4]

Musom	
Misatik	
Region	Markham Valley, New Guinea
Native speakers	200 (2000)[1]
Language family	Austronesian ■ Malayo-Polynesian ■ Oceanic ■ Western Oceanic ■ Huon Gulf ■ Markham ■ Lower Markham ■ Busu ■ **Musom**
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	`msu`
Glottolog	`muso1238` (http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/muso1238)[2]
Coordinates: 6.683574°S 147.11452°E	

Contents

Phonology

Musom Consonants[4]

	Bilabial	Alveolar	Affricated Alveolar	Velar	Glottal	Labio-velar
Stop: Voiceless	p	t	ts	k	'	kw
Voiced	b	d	dz	g		gw
Prenasalised			(nts)			
Voiceless						
Voiced	mb	nd	ndz	ngg		
Nasal	m	n		ng		
Fricatives		s			h	
Liquid		r				
Semi-vowel	w					

In Musom, voiceless, voiced and prenasalised voice are the only series of stops when it comes to consonants.[4] For Musom consonants, if there is a prenasalised voice stop, the vowel is then seen after it and is can be as nasal only.[4] Allophones are contained in the prenasalised voiced affricated alveolar stop /ndz/ which occurs initially, medially, and then [nts] occurs finally.[4]

For the consonants, /w, kw, gw/ they do not occur initially, medially and finally, but all other consonants do.[4] Other consonants that do not occur finally are /d, g, ndz/.[4] When the word ends in with a consonant and the next word also begins with a consonant, a prothetic *a* is put in between the words.[4] For the consonant /r/, it contains two allophones [r] and [l], but only in free variation.[4]

Musom Vowels[4]

	Front	Central	Back
High	i		u
Mid	e		o
Low		a	
Diphthongs: *ai, ou, au, oi, oai*			

When Musom is compared to Yabim, there are claims that infer that Musom may have a 7-vowel system.[4]

Syllable Structure

Musom language has a syllable structure of (C) V (C) (V) (C).[4]

Morphophonemics

In Musom language, if a speaker were to talk fast, /u/ could be heard as [i].[4] Some examples that could be heard are:[4]

- *num* > [nim] drink
- *wutsin .* [witsin] inside

If a subject pronoun prefix that contains a vowel, comes before the root that is within a vowel (verb root), the verb root changes according to what came before it.[4] Some examples are:[4]

- *mbidi* stand up
  a-mbidi 1st person subject > *u-mbudi* 2nd person subject

i-mbidi 3rd person subject

- *mbitsi* cook on fire

a-mbitsi 1st person subject > *u-mbutsi* 2nd person subject

i-imbitsi 3rd person subject

Words that contain multiple syllables, those syllables could be dropped or centralized.[4] A vowel turns into schwa [ə] in the unstressed syllable.[4] Here is an example:[4]

- *'apun* completive particle > ['apm] ~ ['apəm]

Pronouns

Focal pronouns are able to be used as subjects and objects of verbs.[4] Prepositions only occur with objects of verbs.[4] Focal pronouns are also found in a possessive phrase.[4] For 1st singular, short form only occurs when *wir* is switched for *u* or *ur*.[4]

Focal Pronouns[4]

	SG	DU	PL
1 excl.	*wir/u/ur*	*sikin*	*tse*
1 incl.	-	*suk*	*tsir*
2	*ingg*	*som sikin*	*tsom*
3	*in*	*isikin*	*is*

Interrogative pronouns can be seen with who and what.[4] In Musom, who and what can be used with two different pronouns.[4] Those two different pronouns are:[4]

- *asa* "who"
- *sira* "what"

Some examples of these two pronouns are:[4]

- *in asa?* Who is he?
  Rak anu sira? What is that there?

Asa ngaing gi-its ingg? Who hit you? (lit. Which man hit you?)

Both reflexive and emphatic pronouns both mean Pronoun + self.[4] This table shows the reflexive and emphatic pronouns:[4]

Reflexive/Emphatic Pronouns[4]

	SG	DU	PL
1EXC	(o)rong	ro(ng)geng	ro(ng)geng
1INC	-	rons	rons
2	(i)rom	romem	romem
3	ron	rons	rons

Possession

The first type of possession in Musom has inalienable nouns.[4] Some examples of these inalienable nouns are kin terms, body parts, name, namesake, friend or trade partner.[4]

Possession of Set 1 Inalienable Kinship Terms and Body Parts[4]

	SG	DU	PL
1EXC	*wir/ur a + N-ng(g)*	*sikin a + N-ng (g)*	*tse + N-ng(g)*
1INC		*suk a + N-ng(g)*	*tsir a + N-ng(g)*
2	*ingg a + N-m*	*som sikin a + N-m*	*tsom a + N-m*
3	*in a + N-n*	*isikin a + N-n*	*is a + N-m*

The second type of possession in Musom is Alienable possession.[4] The second type of possession holds all the nouns that are not in the first type.[4] The possessive phrase can contain noun or pronoun possession, and prothetic *a*.[4] Then there is a noun that is not attributed to the possessive markers which is the noun possessed.[4] Here are some examples:[4]

- *wir a om* my house

ingg a mimin your betelnut

in a tahung his smoke

is a kom/kom a is en their dog

Sentence Structure

Coordination

In the Musom language, sentences can be formed by using conjunctions such as *da* 'and, but' and *ma* 'or'.[4] One example using *da* is:[4]

- *Tse g-a-k g-a-bitsi ung da g-a-hur*

weEXC P-SPP1-go P-SPP1-cook breadfruit and P-SPP1-fish

We cooked breadfruit and fished (for crayfish) in the river.

One example using *ma* is:[4]

- *Ingg ng-u-ak Madang ma ingg ng-u-ak*

youSG IRR-SPP2-go Madang or youSG IRR-SPP2-go

You can go to Madang or you can go to Ramu.

Conditional

The Musom language when using conditional sentences can be found in the form of:[4]

da + Subject 1 + *ng*-SPP-V *da* + Subject 2 *bo-ng*-SPP-V

An example using a conditional sentence is:[4]

- *Da amik ng-i-ruk wir bo-ng-a-bum omb.*

and rain IRR-SPP3-fall I FUT-IRR-SPP1-stay village

If it rains I will stay in the village

References

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